

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

Please cancel claim 1, without prejudice.

1. (cancelled)
2. (currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 1~~ An immunogenic or vaccine composition for protection against *E. acervulina*, *E. maxima*, *E. mitis* and *E. tenella* consisting of a mixture of sporulated oocysts isolated from precocious strains of *E. acervulina*, *E. maxima*, *E. mitis* and *E. tenella*, wherein the mixture is about 500 oocysts of *E. acervulina*, about 50 to about 100 oocysts of *E. maxima*, about 500 oocysts of *E. mitis* and about 100 to about 250 oocysts of *E. tenella* are combined.
3. (currently amended) The composition of claim 4 wherein the mixture is about 500 oocysts of *E. acervulina*, about 100 oocysts of *E. maxima*, about 500 oocysts of *E. mitis* and about 100 oocysts of *E. tenella* are combined.
4. (currently amended) An immunogenic or vaccine composition for protection against *E. acervulina*, *E. maxima*, *E. mitis* and *E. tenella* comprising a mixture of sporulated oocysts, wherein the mixture of sporulated oocytes consists of sporulated oocysts isolated from precocious strains of *E. acervulina*, *E. maxima*, *E. mitis* and *E. tenella*, wherein ~~the ratio of *E. acervulina*:*E. maxima*:*E. mitis*:*E. tenella* is about 10:1 to 2:10:2 to 5~~ for every 10 sporocysts of *E. acervulina*, there are about 1 to 2 sporocysts of *E. maxima*, about 10 sporocysts of *E. mitis* and about 2 to 10 sporocysts of *E. tenella*.
5. (currently amended) The composition of claim 4 wherein ~~the ratio of *E. acervulina*:*E. maxima*:*E. mitis*:*E. tenella* is about 5:1:5:1~~ for every 10 sporocysts of *E. acervulina*, there are about 2 sporocysts of *E. maxima*, about 10 sporocysts of *E. mitis* and about 2 sporocysts of *E. tenella*.
6. (currently amended) A method of eliciting an immune response comprising administering an effective amount of the immunogenic or vaccine composition of claim 4 to induce the response in a chicken.

7. (currently amended) A method for inducing an immunological or protective response comprising administering an effective amount ~~of~~ of the immunogenic or vaccine composition of claim 4 to induce the response in a chicken.

8. (original) A method of eliciting an immune response comprising administering an effective amount of the immunogenic or vaccine composition of claim 4 to induce the response in a chicken.

9. (currently amended) A method for inducing an immunological or protective response comprising administering an effective amount of the immunogenic or vaccine ~~e~~ composition composition of claim 4 to induce the response in ~~in~~ a chicken.

10. (original) The method of claims 6 or 7 wherein the effective amount is about 500 oocysts of *E. acervulina*, about 50 to about 100 oocysts of *E. maxima*, about 500 oocysts of *E. mitis* and about 100 to about 250 oocysts of *E. tenella*.

11. (original) The method of claims 6 or 7 wherein the effective amount is about 500 oocysts of *E. acervulina*, about 100 oocysts of *E. maxima*, about 500 oocysts of *E. mitis* and about 100 oocysts of *E. tenella*.

12. (currently amended) The method of claims 8 or 9 wherein the effective amount ~~is the ratio of *E. acervulina*:*E. maxima*:*E. mitis*:*E. tenella* is about 5:1:5:1~~ of the mixture of sporulated oocysts, wherein for every 10 sporocysts of *E. acervulina*, there are about 2 sporocysts of *E. maxima*, about 10 sporocysts of *E. mitis* and about 2 sporocysts of *E. tenella* in the mixture.

13. (original) The method of any one of claims 6-9 wherein the effective amount is sufficient to resist a challenge dose of about 100,000 to about 500,000 oocysts of *E. acervulina* and about 10,000 to about 100,000 oocysts of *E. maxima*, about 100,000 to about 500,000 oocysts of *E. mitis*, or about 10,000 to about 100,000 oocysts of *E. tenella* to the animal.

14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the challenge dose is about 200,000 oocysts of *E. acervulina* and about 20,000 to about 50,000 oocysts of *E. maxima*, about 200,000 oocysts of *E. mitis*, or about 20,000 to about 50,000 oocysts of *E. tenella*.